



**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116** EXPEDITED PROCEDURE **EXAMINING GROUP 2137** 

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OFFICIAL:

## In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Serial Number:

09/081,872

Appn. Filed:

05/20/98

Applicant(s):

John H. Messing

Appn. Title:

Electronic Signature Program

Examiner:

Douglas J. Meislahn

Group Art Unit:

2137

May 21, 2004 Tucson, Arizona

## Amendment H

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, District of Columbia 20231

Sir:

Please permit amendment of the claims to allow the following changes.

## Claims Amendments:

Applicant offers amendments suggested by the examiner to Claim 99 and 116 to meet rejections under 35 USC § 102, and related formal amendments necessitated thereby.

Claims Amendments 1-75 Cancelled.

76. (previously presented) A method for signing and verifying electronic data by or on behalf of another at server comprising:

- a. an authentication step of creating a collection of records about a plurality of individuals by entering into a data storage medium a collection of any or a combination of any of the following:
  - i. personal information about an individual,
  - ii. an indicator of the reliability of the identification of the individual who is the subject of a record,
  - iii. whether the authentication mode is universal or whether such individual must authenticate to the server computer in order to sign electronic data using the server computer, and